

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 IOE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SY-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /049 W

-----041757Z 060007 /53

O 041636Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9103

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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E.O; 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW)

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG VISIT -- PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR LAGOS  
AND KADUNA

1. FOLLOWING IS TENTATIVE SCENARIO FOR AMERICAN MEDIA PARTY:

(A) MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7:

OFFENBURGER AND MEDIA PARTY MET ON ARRIVAL BY PAO, BUSSED TO EKO HOTEL. (ROOMS COST \$67 SINGLE, \$88 DOUBLE, PAYABLE STRICTLY IN ADVANCE.) AFTER CHECKING IN PARTY IS TAKEN TO PAO RESIDENCE WHERE LAGOS AMERICAN MEDIA COVERING YOUNG VISIT JOIN GROUP FOR BRIEFING ARRANGEMENTS AND BUFFET SUPPER. OFFENBURGER INVITED STAY WITH PAO.

(B) TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8:

DEPART 0345 FOR AIRPORT. CHARTERED PRESS PLANE DEPARTS 0500 ARRIVING KADUNA 0730. MET BY USIS INFORMATION OFFICER (WPO ADVANCING KADUNA ARRANGEMENTS) AND FMG ESCORT WHO TAKE GROUP TO GROUNDS.

TV/PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED ARE : (1) HEAD OF STATE HOSTING VIP LUNCH FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND OTHER TOP DIGNITARIES AND (2) EVENING RECEPTION FOR TRADITIONAL NIGERIAN LEADERS TO WHICH HE INVITED. WE REQUESTING COVERAGE PERMISSION. (IF

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GOVERNMENT CANNOT PROVIDE SATISFACTORY BILLETING--WHICH LIKELY TO BE CASE--CONSULATE WILL SUPPLY SPARTAN SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEDIA PARTY.

C) WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

PRESS PLANE DEPARTS KADUNA 0830, ARRIVES LAGOS 1100. (TIMING FOR VIP PLANE WITH HEAD OF STATE AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG NOT YET DETERMINED.) TWO EVENTS FOR COVERAGE WILL BE: (1) AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO FESTIVAL

VILLAGE AND NATIONAL THEATER, AS HE TRAVELS FROM LAGOS AIRPORT TO RESIDENCE; AND (2) RECEPTION FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND FESTAC AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS AT RESIDENCE 1070-2000 DURING WHICH HE WILL MAKE REMARKS.

D) THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

EVENTS FORESEEN: YOUNG MEETINGS WITH HEAD OF STATE OBASANJO AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER GARBA. COVERAGE PERMISSION HAS BEEN REQUESTED. SUGGEST AMBASSADOR YOUNG MAY WISH HOLD PRESS BRIEFING FOR AMERICAN MEDIA ONLY PLUS AFP IN LATE AFTERNOON OR EARLY EVENING AT RES-

IDENCE OR CHANCERY. FINAL EVENT WOULD BE POSSIBLE DEPARTURE STATEMENT

THOSE MEDIA GROUP MEMBERS ACCOMPANYING AMBASSADOR YOUNG ONWARDS WILL BE BUSSED AIRPORT FOR MIDNIGHT DEPARTURE.

2. DUE TO ENDEMIC IRRESPONSIBILITY AND INACCURACY OF NIGERIAN PRESS, WE RECOMMEND THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S CONTACTS WITH LOCAL PRESS BE AS FOLLOWS:

A) REMARKS AT WEDNESDAY RECEPTION AT RESIDENCE (ALSO TO BE COVERED BY AMERICAN MEDIA PARTY).

B) PARTICIPATION IN SPECIAL PANEL TV SHOW AT REQUEST OF NIGERIAN NATIONAL TV, TO BE TAPED DURING ONE-HOUR PERIOD THURSDAY AFTERNOON. PANEL WOULD CONSIST OF THREE TOP NIGERIAN EDITORS/ COLUMNISTS AND BE MODERATED BY ABLE TV COMMENTATOR/HEAD OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT AT LAGOS UNIVERSITY. PROGRAM WOULD BE TELECAST NATIONWIDE AND ENABLE AMBASSADOR YOUNG TO PROJECT IMAGE AND IDEAS OF NEW ADMINISTRATION IN MANNER WHICH WOULD MINIMIZE MISINTERPRETATION AND DISTORTION INEVITABLE IN OPEN PRESS CONFERENCE SITUATION HERE. USIS WOULD TAPE AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISTRIBUTE TRANSCRIPT OF SHOW TO MEDIA AND TARGET AUDIENCE LIST.

C) DEPARTURE STATEMENT--WHICH USIS WOULD CIRCULATE TO PRESS EARLY FRIDAY MORNING.

3. MINISTRY OF INFORMATION PROMISES EXPEDITIOUS ACCREDITATION OF MEDIA GROUP. SPECIAL COMMERCIAL TELEX AND VOICE CIRCUITS ARE PROMISED FOR KADUNA.

4. PRESS ROOMS WILL BE SET UP AT USIS KADUNA AND LAGOS CHANCERY.

5. REQUEST COMMENTS AT OPENING OF BUSINESS.  
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## Message Attributes

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